



# Indecent Language

TASK: Define and discuss Indecent Language and its effect on unit morale.

CONDITIONS: Discussion – Question based.

STANDARDS: Understand indecent language and how it affects everyone.

REFERENCE: AR 600-20 & Manual for Courts-Martial.



# Indecent Language

## What is Indecent Language?

(DISCUSSION: Ask your Soldiers WHAT indecent language is.)

- *Explanation.* “Indecent” language that is grossly offensive to modesty, decency, or propriety, or shocks the moral sense, because of its vulgar, filthy, or disgusting nature, or its tendency to incite lustful thought. Language is indecent if it tends reasonably to corrupt moral or incite libidinous thoughts. The language must violate community standards.



# Indecent Language

## Problem:

- Sensing sessions and current feedback indicates that the use of profanity and abusive language in public facilities is on the *increase*.
- Soldiers, civilians and family members are using profanity in public places and unaware that they are offending others.
- The use of abusive language and profanity is not consistent with the Commanding General's Vision for Fort Irwin and the National Training Center.



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## Why is indecent language a problem?

- Public use of abusive or profane language may be construed as a form of sexual harassment.
- Use of indecent language is very unprofessional and does not represent the Army Values.
- Use of indecent language is punishable under UCMJ.
  - Article 133 – Conduct unbecoming of an officer.
  - Article 134 – Indecent language.



# Indecent Language

While the elimination of profanity and abusive language is not realistic, we can lower the use and choose not to tolerate the use in public facilities:

- Conference Rooms
- Youth Activity Centers
- Gyms
- Schools
- Formations
- Commissary
- Shoppettes
- PX
- Theaters

How can you help?

- Lead by example
- Police others
- Be aware of the people around you